

E1-11979

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KARL MORELL

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August 13, 2008

E-FILE

Victoria Rutson  
Chief  
Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Docket No. AB-1020X, East Penn Railroad, LLC – Abandonment  
Exemption – In Berks and Montgomery Counties, Pennsylvania

Dear Ms. Rutson:

On June 4, 2008, we forwarded to you the Environmental Report and Historic Report in the above-captioned matter. On July 31, 2008, we forwarded to you the additional letter from the Bureau for Historic Preservation and fax from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Attached please find the letter we received from the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Sincerely,



Karl Morell

Enclosure

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
One Credit Union Place, Suite 340  
Harrisburg, PA 1700-2993

July 29, 2008

Karl Morell  
Ball Janik, LLP  
1455 F. Street, NW Suite 225  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: STB Docket o. AB-1020X, East Penn Railroad, LLC  
Abandonment Exemption—In Berks and Montgomery Counties  
Leesport, PA

As requested in a letter dated June 10, 2008, we have reviewed the project location for possible areas of concern to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Based on our review of the railroad project as described we determined there is no effect on prime agricultural land.

Contact me at (717) 237-2207 or at [ed.white@pa.usda.gov](mailto:ed.white@pa.usda.gov) for more information.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edgar White", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Edgar White  
State Soil Scientist

cc: Nick Ramsey, District Conservationist, Leesport, PA 19533-9710

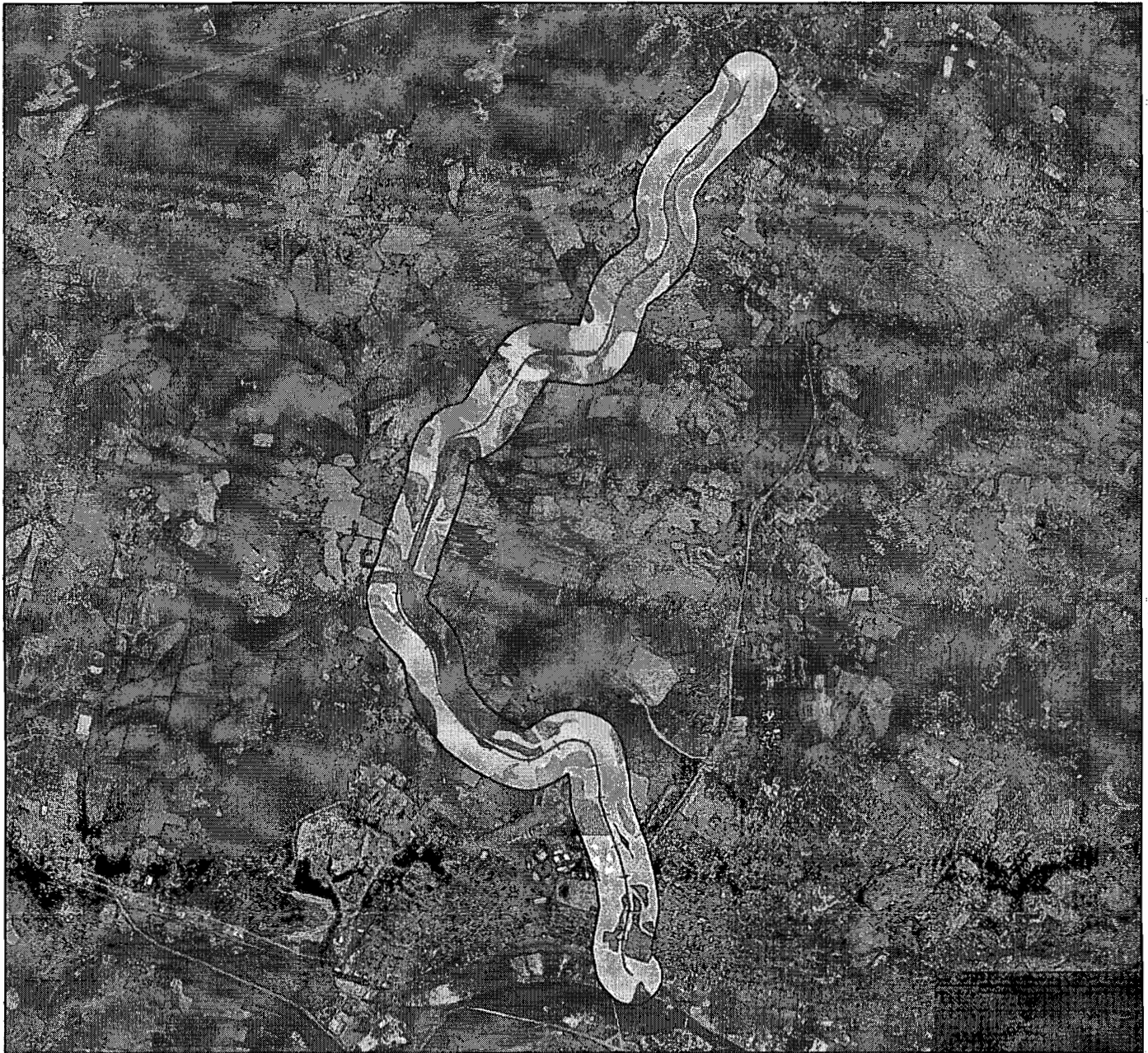
*Helping People Help the Land*

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

*East Penn Railroad, LCC  
Abandonment Proposal  
Berks and Montgomery Counties, PA*

Date: 6/17/2008

Farmland Classification



|   |                                  |              |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------|
| ■ | All areas are prime farmland     | 345.4 acres  |
| ■ | Farmland of statewide importance | 528.5 acres  |
|   | Not prime farmland               | 1056.5 acres |
| + | Railroad                         |              |

*Note: Calculations are based on 1000 foot buffer  
on each side of the railroad.*



2,000 0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000  
Feet

